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Approved For Release 2004/04/19: CIA-RDP80R01731R001300190006-6
ER 14139

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

14 DEC 1950

Dear General Smith:

Reference is made to Admiral Hillenkoetter's memorandum of 22 August 1950, subject: NIS Program, concerning the production of National Intelligence Surveys in accordance with appropriate instructions of the National Security Council. This memorandum recommended the establishment within the Army, Navy and Air Force intelligence components of separate groups having fixed personnel ceilings and fiscal support, enabling them to provide continuous assistance in this connection.

It is recognized that the number of personnel devoted to this activity by the Army, Navy and Air Forces must be substantially increased. A thorough review of your proposal by the Department of Defense indicates, however, that it would be neither practical nor economical for such personnel to be employed as a separate group. Accordingly, I have directed the military Services to integrate them with present intelligence staffs, although their working time would be devoted primarily to the production of National Intelligence Surveys.

The Department of Defense recognizes the importance of maintaining the production of National Intelligence Surveys on a regular basis, undiminished by fluctuations in the world situation which result in heavy demands upon its intelligence agencies.

Faithfully yours,

W. A. MARSHALL

Lt. General W. Bedell Smith
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

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